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JFC Reinvests Economic Development Funds in Southwest Wisconsin

and Formally Restores SeniorCare

MADISON— State Senator Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) announced the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) reinvested \$250,000 in southwest Wisconsin via the Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin organization and formally restored the SeniorCare prescription drug program today.

"I was proud to support the effort to redirect funds to a robust, successful economic development consortium in the 17th Senate District," Marklein said. "The Grant County Economic Development Corporation (GCEDC) has a proven record of success and responsible management of revolving loans and I know that Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin will be able to use these funds to grow businesses and create jobs in our community."

The \$250,000 investment comes from funding originally allocated to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). In recent days, Governor Scott Walker has called for significant changes to his original allocation to the WEDC, including the dissolution of the revolving loan program. The JFC redirected these funds to organizations with proven revolving loan programs in order to maintain investment in economic development. Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin serves economic development interests in Grant, Lafayette, Green, Richland and Crawford counties under the leadership of the GCEDC.

The JFC also formally restored the SeniorCare program today.

"At the JFC Hearing in Reedsburg last March, we announced our intention to restore SeniorCare because it is a good program that is working well for the citizens of our state," Marklein said. "Our action today formally restored the program."

The Joint Finance Committee will continue to meet in Executive Session to revise the Governor's budget proposal before it is presented to the full legislature.

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